



For Immediate Release
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Deck the Halls...and Donate...

**The Holiday Season Kicks Off with Tree Lighting, Treats, Caroling Performance, and Santa
And the Start of the 8th Annual Toy & Coat Drive to Benefit Families in Need**

Westchester, NY— If you were lucky enough to take home a share of the nearly **\$7 billion** in credits won by patrons at **Empire City Casino** this year – like Ms. Stefern of Bergenfield, NJ who won \$509,000 on a Wheel of Fortune slot this month - you may have thought Christmas came early. But so many others in New York don't even have warm coats for themselves or their families, let alone the means to put a toy under the tree to ensure their children experience some small measure of joy on December 25th. Empire City is hoping residents will help them change that.

Empire City Casino is inviting residents of the tri-state area to attend a **Holiday Kick-Off Event** on **Saturday, November 29th** from **5:00pm – 6:30pm** where attendees will enjoy an outdoor performance by **Victorian Carolers**, **complimentary hot chocolate, fresh-baked cookies, and candy canes**, **photos with Santa**, and a **special gift for children age 12 and under**. A 20-foot **Christmas Tree** will be lit at **6:15pm** to represent the official start of the holiday season.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a new or gently-worn coat or a new, unwrapped toy as a **donation** for the **Annual Toy and Coat Drive** to benefit needy families. Donations to the Toy and Coat Drive will continue to be accepted at the main promotions booth through Tuesday, December 16th. All donations will be presented on December 17th to partnering charitable organizations serving families in need.



The festivities will take place in front of the casino's **Main Entrance (Grand Victorian Hall)** off of **Central Park Avenue** (at the **General Parking Entrance**). This holiday family affair is **free** for children and adults alike.

For more information call **914-968-4200** or visit www.empirecitycasino.com.

About Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway:

Empire City Casino, one of the largest entertainment and gaming destinations in the country, features 5,300 of the hottest slots, electronic craps, roulette, baccarat and sic bo; year-round harness racing & International simulcasting; live entertainment including the best party, tribute and Latin bands, comedy, karaoke & more. A plethora of dining options will satisfy even the most discerning palate with Italian cuisine at Nonno's Trattoria; trackside dining with live betting at Empire Terrace Restaurant; and convenient delicious options at the International Food Court or Grab 'n Go. A new \$50 million expansion added Dan Rooney's, a high-energy sports bar; Pinch American Grill, in collaboration with Ducasse Studio, not only whets the appetite but also features dozens of New York craft beers on tap; and Alley 810, a craft cocktail lounge rounds out the entertainment options with retro bowling lanes. Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue (at Central Avenue) in Yonkers, New York, Westchester County (I-87 to Exit 2), open seven days a week from 9:00am to 4:00am. Connect with us on facebook.com/empirecity, follow us on twitter.com/EmpireCity_C, visit www.empirecitycasino.com or call 914.968.4200 for more information.

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